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File: SAFE

QUESTION: It is the Committee's understanding that in the
11. joint CIA/DIA SAFE, all Agency requirements have
been enumerated and overlapping requirements have
been identified. What per cent is common to CIA
and to DIA?

ANSWER:

From a requirements perspective, the analyst support functions of the CIA have been found to be a direct requirement of the DIA. In addition, the DIA has a diversity of functions which the CIA does not, such as support of encyclopedic files for DOD community reference and support of other functions such as collection management, graphics and computation satisfied in CIA by the centralized Office of Data Processing.

The system design to satisfy the requirements calls for virtually identical hardware configurations and a high degree of common system software. The hardware is over 90% common, the software is estimated to be 50-70% common and the system design is one technical effort rather than two.

In summary - CIA requirements are 95% common to DIA except for numbers of users and file sizes. DIA requires additional functions.

QUESTION: In the SAFE System have CIA requirements been
12. sacrificed to any degree in order to accommodate
DIA needs?

ANSWER:

Not that can be discerned at this time. The initial delay encountered to effect the merger was the major loss. At this time it would appear that each Agency will be able to afford a more complete system through shared cost.

In the system development process there may be design compromises made to accommodate the broader range of DIA requirements and these compromises may effect CIA performance to a degree. They will be analyzed as they arise to minimize the effect or to seek alternatives.

This question will be answered more specifically through the System and Sub-System Design Reviews.

QUESTION: At this point in the SAFE endeavor, do you believe
13. resources have been saved by making the Project
an inter-Agency effort? Do you believe system
effectiveness has been compromised in any way in
order to accommodate both Agencies?

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ANSWER:

Yes - resources to manage the project and resources
to develop the system have both been saved. The savings are
estimated to be dollars in development cost.

We will not know for some time whether system effective-
ness has been compromised to accommodate both Agencies. When
it becomes necessary to make design and implementation
decisions over the next several years, we will know whether
such compromise is necessary or will limit one Agency's
efficiency. This will require close management attention and
will get it.

We are embarked on a consolidated development which both
Agencies agree is the proper course. The risk to effectiveness
is managable within the project office.

*Sugg: - Not part of answer
do not forward*

There is a tendency for programs of such broad scope, moderate cost and high visibility to attract a great deal of continuing scrutiny. An overbearing oversight seems the most likely source of potential compromise. We must temper our desire to tamper with programs until they can produce some tangible result. (Then we can all criticize them more effectively).

P.S. - Don't worry HAC - you're off the hook. If it is a success you'll get the credit. If it fails it will be because the Agency didn't follow one or another of your directions.

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Responses due COB, Wed 26 MAR

(HIPSCI Questions)

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EO CP

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11. It is the Committee's understanding that in the development of the joint DIA/CIA SAFE system, all Agency requirements have been enumerated and overlapping requirements between DIA and CIA have been identified? What percentage of the requirements are common to both DIA and CIA?

12. In the SAFE system, have CIA requirements been sacrificed to any degree in order to accommodate DIA needs?

13. At this point in the SAFE endeavor, do you believe that resources have been saved by making the project a joint Agency effort? Do you believe that system effectiveness has been compromised in any way in order to accommodate both agencies' needs?

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20. This Committee has taken a somewhat paternal interest in Project SAFE, the computer system to provide ADP support to CIA and DIA intelligence analysts. It was this Committee which directed DIA and CIA to jointly develop a common SAFE system, rather than developing separate systems as was previously contemplated prior to the intervention of this Committee. Admiral Turner has indicated in testimony before the Committee that the Committee performed a real service by insisting on this consolidated CIA/DIA SAFE system, and that this combined SAFE system will be significantly less expensive than separate CIA and DIA systems would have been. While this Committee is proud of its parental role in regard to SAFE -- like a good parent -- it will not close its eyes to problems which might be developing in regard to its child. Mr. Carlucci, the Committee is beginning to hear rumors that SAFE is in trouble, that is having problems finding adequate numbers of competent programmers willing to work on the East Coast, and that SAFE is beginning to miss significant schedule milestones. If true, this could ultimately result in significant cost and schedule overruns for SAFE. Are you aware of these problems with SAFE? Could there be large cost and schedule overruns on SAFE? What is the current cost estimate for SAFE? What could the total cost balloon to if these troubles with SAFE are in fact true?

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